

THE LAW

Children of school age registered at a school, must by law attend school regularly.

Parents DO NOT have any right or entitlement to take a child out of school for the purpose of a term time holiday. In exceptional circumstances a head teacher may authorise a request for a period of leave of up to 10 days in any one school year.

Taking a holiday without permission from the head teacher could result in the issue of a PENALTY NOTICE that could lead to a fine of £50 per parent per child.

In some instances children who take holidays in term time could risk losing their school place.

Encourage Your Child's Attendance

For more information contact your child's school or alternatively you can contact: -

The Education Welfare Service
9 North Avenue
Stoke Park
Coventry
CV2 4DH

Telephone: (024) 76788360

Your child's education is too important to take holidays in term time.



HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Your child's education is priceless!

Coventry Education Authority does not support holidays in school time. There are **190** statutory days in one school year; this leaves **175** days every year out of school time available for holidays.

Every School Day Matters

The Law requires that pupils must attend their school regularly. Before taking a child on holiday please consider the following:

- Request a holiday form before booking a holiday
- The parent/guardian with whom the child lives should complete a holiday request form as soon as possible and return to school.
- A decision from school will be given within 7 days - You may be required to attend a formal interview with the Headteacher.

The government recommendation is that the school attendance of every child should be 95% or above, if they are to achieve their potential.

Pupils who take 10 days holiday during term time can only achieve a maximum attendance of 94.70% even if there are no other absences throughout the year.

Every School Day Matters

PARENTS

Consequences of taking your child out of school for a holiday:

- Missing out on valuable school work/courses
- Loss of learning opportunities if close to exams
- Settling in problems during the first term/year of a new school
- Disruption in friendship groups
- Difficulties a child may face due to having to ask for extra help to catch up
- Your child may never catch up on school missed
- Your child may return from a holiday to find that they no longer have a school place
- Research proves that exam grades are reduced in proportion to the number of days missed

IS YOUR CHILD MISSING OUT!

Every School Day Matters

Before permission is granted to authorise holidays in term time the Headteacher must consider carefully:

- **The child's overall attendance pattern**
- **Any holidays already taken in the school year**
- **The reason for taking time off during term time**
- **The child's stage of education**
- **Time and duration of the holiday**
- **The ability of the child to catch up on the work they have missed**
- **Closeness to SATS and GCSE exams and course work**
- **Deadlines**
- **Whether the holiday is in the child's best interest.**